

URBAN DISTRICT
OF
SOWERBY BRIDGE.

REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
FOR THE YEAR
1913.



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Medical Officer of Health's Report for 1913.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SANITARY
COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to forward you my Twenty-fourth Annual Report.

Vital Statistics.

Population: 11,380.

Births.

Males, 109; Females, 100. Total 209, giving a Birth-rate of 18·3 per thousand per annum, against 15·4 in 1912. Birth-rate England and Wales, 23·9.

**Table of Births and Birth-rates during the last
Ten Years.**

Year.	Males.		Females.		Totals.		Rate per 1000.	
1904	125	..	..	109	..	19·6
1905	93	..	..	90	..	15·3
1906	116	..	..	81	..	16·3
1907	93	..	..	89	..	15·1
1908	108	..	..	95	..	16·4
1909	90	..	..	93	..	14·7
1910	95	..	..	106	..	16·0
1911	100	..	..	100	..	17·5
1912	88	..	..	88	..	15·4
1913	109	..	..	100	..	18·3

Deaths.

Males, 64; Females, 84. Total 148, giving a Death-rate of 13·0 per thousand per annum, against 12·4 in 1912. Death-rate England and Wales, 13·7.

**Table of Deaths and Death-rates during the last
Ten Years.**

Years.	Males.		Females.		Totals.		Rate per 1000.	
1904	66	..	..	80	..	12·3
1905	63	..	..	86	..	12·4
1906	55	..	..	68	..	10·2
1907	60	..	..	74	..	11·1
1908	56	..	..	74	..	10·5
1909	82	..	..	52	..	10·7
1910	59	..	..	58	..	9·2
1911	65	..	..	69	..	11·8
1912	66	..	..	75	..	12·4
1913	64	..	..	84	..	13·0

Causes of, and Ages at, Deaths (see Table IV.)

Death Rates from following causes during the last Ten Years.

Year.	All Diseases.				Zymotic.				Respiratory.				Phthisis.			
1904	14·6	..	..	0·1	..	..	0·27	..	..	0·10	..	..	..	..
1905	12·4	..	..	0·1	..	..	0·23	..	..	0·9	..	..	..	..
1906	10·2	..	..	0·04	..	..	0·13	..	..	0·049	..	..	..	..
1907	11·1	..	..	0·02	..	..	0·24	..	..	0·09	..	..	..	..
1908	10·5	..	..	0·08	..	..	0·10	..	..	0·09	..	..	..	..
1909	10·7	..	..	0·04	..	..	0·9	..	..	0·15	..	..	..	..
1910	9·2	..	..	0·06	..	..	0·11	..	..	0·10	..	..	..	..
1911	11·8	..	..	0·05	..	..	0·16	..	..	0·11	..	..	..	..
1912	12·4	..	..	0·03	..	..	0·20	..	..	0·6	..	..	..	..
1913	13·0	..	..	0·01	..	..	0·28	..	..	0·7	..	..	..	..

Zymotic Death-rate England and Wales 1·20.

Table of Comparison of Births and Deaths during the last Ten Years.

Year.	Births.				Deaths.				Birth Rate.				Death Rate.			
1904	234	..	..	146	..	..	19·7	..	..	12·3	..	..	..	..
1905	183	..	..	149	..	..	15·3	..	..	12·4	..	..	..	..
1906	197	..	..	123	..	..	16·3	..	..	10·2	..	..	..	..
1907	181	..	..	134	..	..	15·1	..	..	11·1	..	..	..	..
1908	203	..	..	130	..	..	16·4	..	..	10·5	..	..	..	..
1909	183	..	..	134	..	..	14·7	..	..	10·7	..	..	..	..
1910	201	..	..	117	..	..	16·0	..	..	9·2	..	..	..	..
1911	200	..	..	134	..	..	11·5	..	..	11·8	..	..	..	..
1912	176	..	..	141	..	..	15·4	..	..	12·4	..	..	..	..
1913	209	..	..	148	..	..	18·3	..	..	13·0	..	..	..	..

Infant Mortality.

During the year there have been 20 Deaths in Infants under one year, as against 25 during last year, 25 during 1911, 15 during 1910, and 18 during 1909. Infant mortality per 1000 Births, 90·5. Infant mortality per 1000 Births for England and Wales, 109.

Table of Deaths at Subjoined Ages during the last Ten Years.

Year.	Infancy.				Under 5 Years.				Over 5 Years.				All Ages.			
1904	47	..	..	56	..	..	90	..	..	146	..	..	..	..
1905	36	..	..	48	..	..	101	..	..	149	..	..	..	..
1906	15	..	..	28	..	..	95	..	..	123	..	..	..	..
1907	17	..	..	29	..	..	105	..	..	134	..	..	..	..
1908	18	..	..	32	..	..	98	..	..	130	..	..	..	..
1909	24	..	..	32	..	..	102	..	..	134	..	..	..	..
1910	16	..	..	22	..	..	95	..	..	117	..	..	..	..
1911	25	..	..	31	..	..	103	..	..	134	..	..	..	..
1912	18	..	..	25	..	..	116	..	..	141	..	..	..	..
1913	20	..	..	28	..	..	120	..	..	148	..	..	..	..

Table of Population, Inhabited Houses, &c.

Year.	Population.	Houses per Acre.	Population per Acre.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
1907	11,397	5.4	21.5	15.1	11.1
1908	11,385	5.5	21.8	16.4	10.5
1909	11,372	5.6	21.9	14.7	10.7
1910	11,360	5.7	22.3	16.0	9.2
1911	11,343	5.7	20.1	17.5	11.8
1912	11,365	5.8	21.0	15.4	12.4
1913	11,380	5.9	22.0	18.3	13.0

Zymotic Diseases.

During the year 83 cases have been reported, against 36 during 1912, 50 during 1911, 34 in 1910, 158 during 1909, 52 during 1908, and 68 during 1907. The above 83 cases include 46 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 15 other Tubercular Diseases.

**Table of Zymotic Diseases, Numbers, Deaths, &c,
during the last Ten Years.**

Diseases.	1904		1905		1906		1907		1908		1909		1910		1911		1912		1913	
	No.	Deaths.	No.	Deaths.	No.	Deaths.	No.	Deaths.	No.	Deaths.	No.	Deaths.	No.	Deaths.	No.	Deaths.	No.	Deaths.	No.	Deaths.
Small-pox	7		1																	
Scarlet																				
Fever	74	2	63	3	11	1	7		7	1	119	1	11		7	1	3		5	
Typhoid																				
Fever	10	1	11	1	3	2	2		5	2	7	2	2		2	1	3			
Puerperal																				
Fever	1	1	7	2																
Diphtheria	10	1			13	2	54	3	33	7	11	1	14		26	4	12	1	9	2
Measles		3		4			2		2			1		1				3		
Whooping																				
Cough		1		5										1						
Diarrhœa		2		1		2					1		1							
English																				
Cholera		1																		
Erysipelas	8		7	1	10		5		7		14		7		15		4		8	
Chicken-pox	21		26																	
Totals	141	12	115	16	37	7	68	5	52	12	151	6	34	3	50	6	22	4	22	2
Zymotic																				
Death-rate	0.1		0.1		0.03		0.05		0.08		0.04		0.01		0.05		0.03		0.01	
General																				
Death-rate	12.3		12.4		10.2		11.1		10.5		10.7		9.2		11.8		12.4		13.0	

Remarks on the Zymotic Diseases.

There have been twenty-two cases reported, eight of which are referable to Erysipelas, this leaving fourteen cases referable to the principal Zymotic Diseases, five of these being cases of Scarlet Fever, and nine to Diphtheria. The District has been wonderfully free of these diseases during the past year.

Scarlet Fever.

During the year five cases have occurred, against three during the last year. The cases were mostly of a mild type.

Diphtheria.

During the year nine cases have been reported—two proving fatal—against twelve last year, twenty-six during 1911, fourteen during 1910, seven during 1909, and five during 1908. Three cases were removed to hospital.

Typhoid Fever.

During the year no cases have been reported. Last year there were three cases. The low death rate from this disease is very satisfactory, as few of the Zymotic Diseases have so close a relationship to unsanitary conditions.

Diarrhœa, including Enteritis.

There have been four deaths from this disease, against three in 1912. All were in children under one year.

Whooping Cough.

There has been no death from this cause during the year.

Smallpox.

No case during the year.

Tuberculosis.

In the past this disease has been treated as an ordinary infectious disease, disinfection, &c., being carried out. No

Hospital for such cases in the District. Fourteen cases have been reported from Poor Law Hospital and the medical men of the District. Cases have been visited and oral and written instructions given. See Table II.

Method of Dealing with Infectious Diseases.

It has invariably been my custom to visit all cases reported, to enquire into cause, see that cases are properly isolated, and advise what precautions are necessary in order to prevent the disease from spreading. In the case of Typhoid Fever patients two typhoid pails are left, one for day and one for night use, and in these are collected not only the fœces but also the urine; and as it is a well known fact that the bacillus or germ of the disease is present in such evacuations for some considerable time after convalescence patients are advised to continue the use of the pails for some time after their illness. After careful disinfection, the pails are taken to the Destructor by one of the Council's men and burnt.

In all houses where any Zymotic Disease has been reported post cards are supplied to the medical man in attendance on the case, the card to be filled up and sent to the Council's Offices as soon as the case has recovered and there is no risk of further infection. Then the houses are carefully disinfected by the Sanitary staff, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Factories and Workshops.

Much good sanitary work has been accomplished during the year. The general condition is satisfactory. (See special report).

Unsound Food.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Sanitary Works Accomplished.

During the year a considerable amount of sanitary work has been done with great benefit to the District,

especially in the reconstruction of defective drains, and wet ashpits to ashplaces and ash bins; many old privies have been converted to Water Closets, also a considerable number of waste pipes have been disconnected. Very few Privy Middens are now left in the District, very good progress having been made with them.

Geological Formation of the District.

The town is compact and built on a millstone grit foundation, the rocks consisting of alternating shales and sandstones. The rocks dip roughly from N.W. to S.E., and by far the greater part of houses are situated on the dip-slope to the north of a valley cut out E. and W. across the strata. In some parts of the district the shales come to the surface, and consequently the ground is here damp, and this, in my opinion, is the chief cause of the Catarrhal Diseases which are so common in these portions of the District. To obviate this, great care should be taken in the construction of the basements of houses constructed on such sites, so as to render them as damp proof as possible. In my opinion a damp sub-soil is also an important factor in the etiology of Cancer. The remainder of the town is fairly dry and healthy.

House Accommodation.

Adequacy and fitness, with few exceptions, good; supervision of new buildings under the Council's control. During the year there have been three cases of overcrowding, which have been dealt with in a satisfactory manner. Seventy-one houses have been visited and thoroughly inspected during the year. Forty-six defects were found to exist, and in all cases remedial measures were adopted.

Sewerage and Drainage.

Drainage generally good; sewerage system completed and filter beds now in use; bacteriological, with land filtration of effluent.

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse.

By public scavenger, at regular intervals.

Places over which the Council have control.

LODGING HOUSES.

There have been no complaints ; are kept in good condition and are clean. No infectious disease reported during the year.

BAKEHOUSES.

Satisfactory ; kept in good condition.

Hospital Accommodation.

Hospital for Infectious Diseases at Milner Royd, Norland, to which seven cases have been removed during the year.

Water Supply.

The District has a good and plentiful supply from the Halifax Corporation Waterworks. The water comes off a millstone grit formation, and is wholesome and of good quality.

Schools.

Sanitary conditions and water supply good. A Schools' Medical Officer has general supervision of health of children. Have had no special incidence of the principal Zymotic Diseases during the year in any particular School. The old closets at one School in the District have been taken out and replaced by proper sanitary W.C's.

River Pollution.

At present under consideration.

Milk Supply.

Mostly from outside Districts. Good and wholesome.

Conclusion.

During the year, as a medical man, I have been constantly in all parts of the District, besides having paid a considerable number of visits to various parts in respect to Infectious Diseases reported, Nuisances reported, visits to Slaughterhouses, &c.; also I have been in almost constant communication with your Sanitary Inspector, *re* various matters which needed immediate attention. From my own observations, I consider the District to be in a good sanitary condition.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

EDGAR D. WELLBURN,

M.O.H., L.R.C.P. AND S. ED., F.R.I.P.H., F.G.S., ETC.

Beech House,

Sowerby Bridge,

Feb. 27th, 1914.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous Years.

Year.	Populat'n estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un- corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Numb'r	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1906	11408	197		16.3	123	10.2		26	21	106	149	13.0
1907	11397	181		15.1	134	11.1		31	17	93	165	14.4
1908	11385	203		16.4	130	10.5		17	18	88	147	12.9
1909	11372	183		14.7	134	10.7		13	24	131	147	12.0
1910	11360	201		16.0	117	9.2		21	16	79	138	12.1
1911	11350	200		17.5	134	11.1	1	15	25	120	158	13.0
1912	11365	176	180	16.7	141	12.4	1	14	17	90	154	12.6
1913	11380	209	209	18.3	148	13.0	0	16	20	90.5	154	12.6

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 563. Number of inhabited houses, 3060.
Average No. of persons per house, 3.6. Total population at all ages, 11,380 (at Census of 1911, 11,350).

TABLE II.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1913.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						65 & up- w'rds	
		under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65		
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)		9	7	1		1		3	3
Erysipelas	8			1	4			
Scarlet Fever...	...	5		4		1			
Typhus Fever	...								
Enteric Fever	...								
Relapsing Fever	...								
Continued Fever	...								
Puerperal Fever	...								
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...								
Polionmyelitis	...	46	2	2	21	12		3	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	15	2	1	1	3			
Other Tuberculosis	...								
Totals	...	83	2	10	12	23	21	12	3

Isolation Hospital: Fever Hospital at Milner Royd. Sanatoria, &c.: None.

TABLE III.—Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year, 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non-Residents in Institutions in District.	
										whether	
		All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	<i>nil</i>
All Causes { Certified.. Uncertified		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	Whooping Cough..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6	Diphtheria and Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8	Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9	Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11	Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	Cancer, malignant disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13	Rheumatic Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14	Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	Organic Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17	Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18	Other diseases of respiratory organs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19	Diarrhoea and Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21	Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21a	Alcoholism	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22	Nephritis and Bright's Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
23	Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
24	Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	Congenital Debility & Malformation, including Premature Birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26	Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28	Other Defined Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
29	Diseases ill-defined or unknown	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals		148	20	3	5	5	3	14	46	52	<i>nil</i>

TABLE IV.
INFANT MORTALITY.

1913. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes { Certified Uncertified											
{ Small-pox ...											
{ Chicken-pox ...											
{ Measles ...											
{ Scarlet Fever ...											
{ Whooping Cough...											
{ Diphtheria and Croup ...											
{ Erysipelas ...											
{ Tuberculosis Meningitis ...											
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis (b) ..											
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases'..											
{ Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ...											
{ Convulsions ...										1	1
{ Laryngitis ...											
{ Bronchitis ...								2			2
{ Pneumonia (all forms) ...									1	2	3
{ Diarrhœa ...											
{ Enteritis ...							1	1		2	4
{ Gastritis ...											
{ Syphilis ...											
{ Rickets ...											
{ Suffocation, overlying ...											
{ Injury at birth ...											
{ Atelectasis ...		1				1	1				2
{ Congenital Malformations (c) ...		4	1			5					5
{ Premature birth ...		1				1	2				3
{ Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus ...											
{ Other causes ...											
		6	1			7	4	3	1	5	20

Nett Births { legitimate 200.
in the year { illegitimate 9.

Nett Deaths in { legitimate infants 19.
the year of { illegitimate infants 1.

TABLE V.—Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year, 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" occurring without the District.						
		1 and 2 and 5 and 15 and 25 and 45 and 65 and						up-wards
		All ages	Under 1 year	1 and 2 under 2	5 and 15 under 5	25 under 25	45 under 45	
All Causes {	Certified..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Uncertified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cancer, malignant disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rheumatic Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Organic Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other diseases of respiratory organs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congenital Debility & Malformation, including Premature Birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Defined Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Males	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
	Females	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		16	16	16	16	16	16	16

TABLE VI.

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—Inspection.

Premises.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Number of Prosecutions
Factories (Including Factory Laundries).	10	None	None
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries).	57		
Total	67		

2.—Defects.

Particulars.	No. of Defects.			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	2	2		
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of floors				
Other nuisances	4	4		
Sanitary { insufficient '				
accommodation { unsuitable or defective	4	4		
{ not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for Bakehouses				
No abstract exhibited				
Total	10	10		

3.—Home Workers: None.

4.—Registered Workshops.

Bakehouses, 9; Workshops, 56. Total, 65.

5.—Other Matters.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories: 1.
Underground Bakehouses in use at the end of the Year: 3.

URBAN DISTRICT
OF
SOWERBY BRIDGE.

REPORT OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1913.

To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee :

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my first Annual Report giving particulars of the work accomplished in the Sanitary Department during the year 1913.

Much additional matter hitherto not in the report has been obtained and is included in the hope that it may prove of some interest to you. The report shows that much has been done to improve the sanitary conditions of the District generally and it is also pleasing to record that the abatement of the many nuisances was effected without friction.

Inspection and the Abatement of Nuisances.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 535. The total number of nuisances abated, after notices were given, was 267. In addition to the foregoing nuisances, suppression of many nuisances took place after verbal intimation.

Sanitary Work, Drainage, and Drain Testing.

During the year 65 drains have been tested by means of water or smoke, 41 drains found defective or untrapped have been removed, 53 new drains laid, 14 gully traps affixed, and 10 rain-water conductors disconnected from drainage.

28 drains found blocked have been cleansed.

10 sink waste pipes have been disconnected from drainage and 12 sink wastes found defective were repaired.

Infectious Disease and Disinfection.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—Cases of infectious disease notified during the year, and the isolation of the patients, are dealt with in the report of your Medical Officer of Health.

DISINFECTION.—Owing to the fact that infectious disease was less prevalent in the District during the year, the amount of disinfecting work done has been considerably lessened.

Disinfection has been carried out at the houses occupied by Consumptives who, under the National Health Insurance Act, obtained Sanatorium benefits.

Disinfectants have been supplied, as usual, free of charge, to householders from the Sanitary Department.

The total number of rooms and articles dealt with after infectious and other diseases is as follows :—

Infectious Diseases—Rooms, 31 ; Articles, 80.

Other Diseases—Rooms, 23 ; Articles, 10.

Destruction of Bedding.

During the year, at the request of the occupiers of houses—5 beds, 10 mattresses, and 15 other articles have been destroyed by burning the same at the Destructor.

Sanitary Accommodation.

Approximate number of water closets in the District :
1,576.

Approximate number of pail closets : 330.

Approximate number of privy-middens : 61.

Closet Conversion.

During the year the number of privy-middens have been further reduced. Twenty-three insanitary privy-middens have been replaced with twenty-six water-closets and ashbins.

The number of conversions during the past four years is shown as under :—

During 1910.	Privies converted, 62.
„ 1911.	„ 50.
„ 1912.	„ 10.
„ 1913.	„ 23.

Factories and Workshops.

Sixty-seven inspections of Factories and Workshops were made during the year. Ten nuisances were found to exist, which necessitated notices being given, and the same have been complied with.

Ten notifications have been received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, in respect to the occupation of Workshops, and these have been placed on the Register.

Six complaints have been received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, in respect to defects, and all have been remedied.

The total number of Workshops upon the Register is 56, made up as follows :—

Boot Repairing	...	14
Dressmaking	...	11
Millinery	... ..	7
Tailoring	... ..	6
Tin-plate Working	...	3
Joinery	... ..	3
Rag Sorting	... ..	2
Various	... ..	10

Bakehouses.

There are nine bakehouses upon the Register, and included in this number are three underground bakehouses.

During the year 18 inspections have been made. One bakehouse was found to be without proper accommodation for the storage of refuse, and two bakehouses required limewashing. Notice was given in each case and the work subsequently carried out.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

There are six Cowkeepers residing in the District upon the Register. Eighteen inspections have been made of their premises, all of which were found to be kept in a satisfactory condition. The cattle were found to be kept in a clean state.

No purveyors of milk reside within the District.

Offensive Trades.

Offensive trades in the District at present number five—consisting of four tripe boilers and one fat refiner.

The premises at which these trades are carried on were all visited and found to be well-conducted. Two nuisances arising through defective state of drainage were discovered and abated.

The total inspections made was twenty.

Fried Fish Shops.

During the year visits have been paid to most of the fried fish shops in the District, which number about seventeen. The premises inspected were all found to be kept in a satisfactory state. One nuisance, arising through the storage of refuse, was found; notice was given, and subsequently proper storage accommodation was provided and the nuisance abated.

Slaughterhouses.

There are three private slaughterhouses and one public abattoir in the District. During the year 85 visits have been paid to them, and all were found to be kept in a clean state and free from nuisances. The abattoir, under the control of the Council, is largely used by the butchers, and the following number of animals were slaughtered there during the year :

Beasts, 479.	Sheep and Lambs, 1709.
Pigs, 794.	Calves, 39.

Food Destroyed.

The annexed table shews the amount of food unfit for human consumption that was seized or surrendered and destroyed during the year :

100lbs. of Pork.	24lbs. of Fruit.
80lbs. of Veal.	14lbs. of Fish.
60lbs. of Mutton.	

Foreign Meat Shops.

Regular inspection has been made of the two foreign meat shops in the District. Two nuisances discovered were abated after notice was given.

Housing.

During the year, under the Housing Regulations, seventy-one house-to-house inspections have been made, making a total of 213 inspections carried out since the institution of the Regulations in 1910. Of the seventy-one houses inspected, thirty houses were found to have defects, while forty-one houses were found in a satisfactory condition. The following table shows the nature and number of the defects found :

NATURE OF DEFECTS.					NUMBER.
Dampness	...	...	...	...	11
Structural Defects	...	...	...	...	8
Defective Sanitary Fittings and Drainage					8
Inefficient Ventilation	...	...	...	...	6
Defective Rainwater Conductors	...	...	...	...	6
Overcrowded	...	...	...	...	2
Other Defects...	...	...	...	...	5
Total...					46

Notices were given in each case for abatement of the nuisances, and forty of these defects were remedied during the year. In respect to the remaining defects, remedial measures were being taken at the end of the year.

During the year forty-five inspections were made of dwellinghouses, apart from the Housing Regulations. Nuisances arising through dampness, defective ventilation, structural defects, etc., were found to the number of twenty-two, and, following notices, the nuisances have been abated.

Common Lodging Houses.

The number of Common Lodging Houses upon the Register is the same as last year, viz., two. Weekly returns of the number of lodgers taken in have been regularly forwarded by the keepers.

During the year sixteen visits were paid, and the houses were found to be satisfactorily kept. Improvements in the ventilation of one of the lodging-houses have been effected ; also a new range of water closets has been provided for use at the other lodging-house during the year.

Canal Boats.

Twenty-four Canal Boats have been examined during the year The total number the boats were registered to carry was 111, and upon the boats were found forty-two men, five women and six children. All the boats, with the exception of one, were found satisfactory; the cabins of this boat required painting, and after notice was given the work was carried out.

No case of illness was seen on any of the boats, and at no time was admittance refused.

No boats have been registered during the year, and the number of boats on the register is eight.

Smoke Observation.

During the year sixty-three smoke observations have been taken of the thirty-two chimneys belonging the different manufactories and works within the District. In only one case was the maximum allowed by the Council exceeded.

The amount of dense smoke emitted is shown by the following record:—

7 observations of 1 hour revealed no dense smoke.			
8	“	“	$\frac{1}{2}$ minute of dense smoke.
8	“	“	1 “ “
10	“	“	$1\frac{1}{2}$ “ “
12	“	“	2 “ “
6	“	“	$2\frac{1}{2}$ “ “
3	“	“	3 “ “
3	“	“	$3\frac{1}{2}$ “ “
2	“	“	$4\frac{1}{2}$ “ “
2	“	“	$6\frac{1}{2}$ “ “
1	“	“	$7\frac{1}{2}$ “ “
1	“	“	9 “ “

Overcrowding.

Eight investigations were made during the year respecting alleged overcrowded dwelling-houses. In three cases notices were issued and the nuisance subsequently abated.

While dealing with house accommodation in the District, it is perhaps of some interest to place before you the number of persons found occupying the houses inspected under the Housing Regulations. The seventy-one houses

inspected were found to be occupied by 202 adults, and 66 children under ten years of age, which, estimated as adults, is 235, giving an average of just over three adults per house. Many of these houses possess one sleeping room only, and from this analysis it may be concluded that overcrowding is not very prevalent in the District.

Closets, Urinals, and Yards Inspected.

290 closets, 124 yards, and 30 urinals were inspected during the year, resulting in the following nuisances being found and subsequently abated.

Twenty-five closets found in a defective state.

Six closets found in a dirty state.

Forty-two ashes receptacles found in a defective state.

Three yard surfaces found in a defective state.

Ten yards found in a dirty state.

Four urinals found in a dirty state.

Nuisances arising through Animals.

During the year twelve piggeries were inspected. Notice was given in one case for swine kept contrary to the Bye-Laws to be removed, and the nuisance was abated.

Two nuisances arising through the keeping of poultry in yards were also abated during the year.

Scavenging.

During the year the system of collection of refuse has been altered, resulting in a much larger quantity of refuse being moved than formerly, and the difference in the number of loads moved during the year and in 1912 is shown as under.

The amount of refuse could be considerably lessened if householders would burn in their own grates the waste paper and similar matters which almost invariably finds its way into the ash-bin, with the result that it rapidly decomposes and becomes objectionable unless effectively removed.

The garbage from the slaughterhouses and the trade refuse from the various shops has been periodically collected during the year, amounting to 234 loads.

Analysis of refuse collected during the year :—

1573	loads from Ashbins.
1373	„ Dry and Wet Ashpits.
669	„ Pail Closets.

Disposal of the refuse is as follows :—

3180	loads to Destructor.
565	„ Milner Royd Tip.
52	„ Norland.
52	„ Warley.

Total number of loads of refuse removed during 1913—3849.
Do. do. do. 1912—3379.

The cost of scavenging for the year amounted to £563.

Accumulations.

During the year twelve notices were given to abate nuisances, arising through accumulations of manure or refuse, and in each case the nuisance was abated.

Petroleum Acts.

The premises licensed for the storage of petroleum under the Acts have been inspected during the year, and all were found to be satisfactorily kept.

Horses' Department.

The horses have been free from serious accidents and ailments during the year. The cost of food and bedding during the year averaged weekly fifteen shillings and nine-pence per horse.

In conclusion, I desire to acknowledge the consideration extended to me by the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee, and to thank my official colleagues for help given me in undertaking this work.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. ELLIS.

